

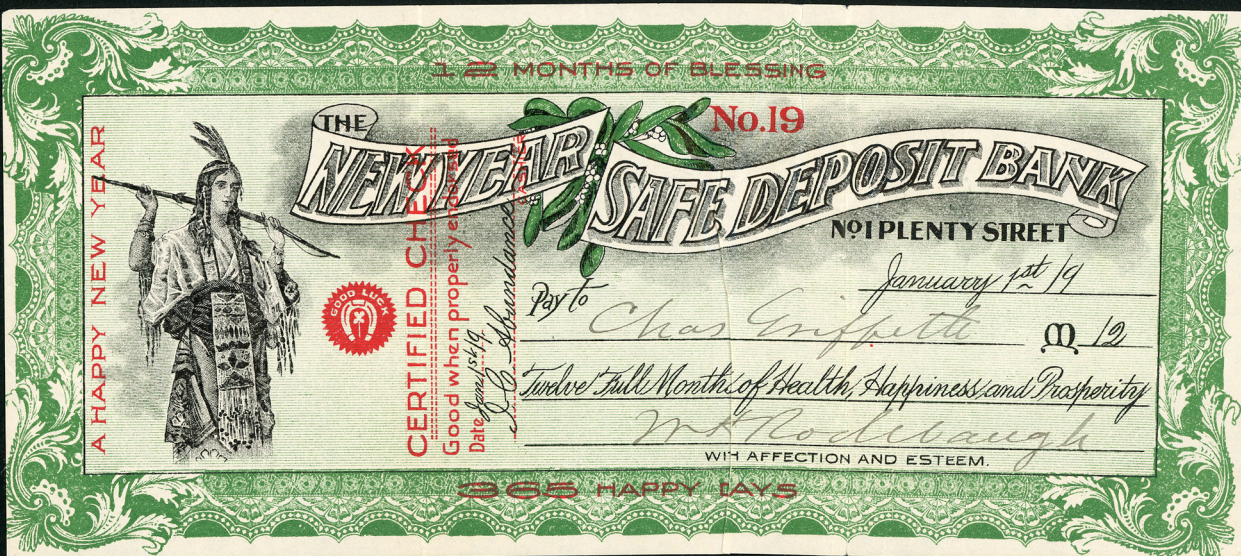
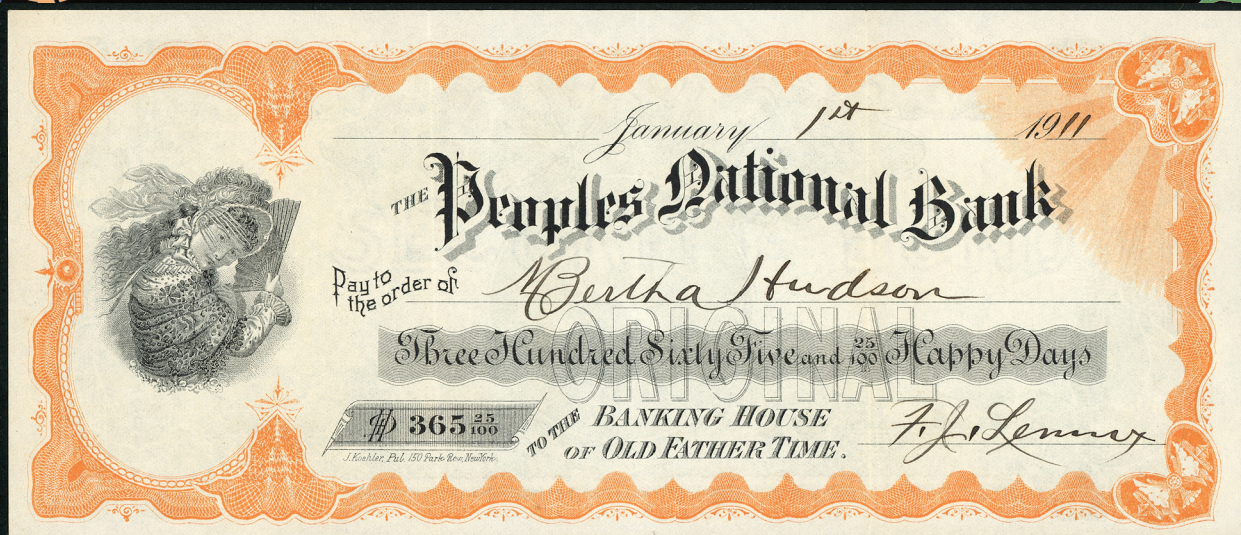
# THE CHECK COLLECTOR

October - December 2018

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THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CHECK COLLECTORS, INC.





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In this issue we read about a handsome series of Vermont drafts, collecting Orange, California checks, and the Davidsons of Lexington, Virginia.

You may notice that this issue of *The Check Collector* is larger than copies have been recently, which is due to running a final Index that includes articles through this issue. This index will be put up on our website in due time.

The website will remain open for the foreseeable future. We have plans to put a complete listing of Connecticut Revenue Stamped Paper there, since Don's inventory will not be finished in this final issue. Articles may be added from time to time, particularly if my winter is long and cold.

All online issues of *The Check Collector* will be available to everyone, no password required.

I'm sorry that my resignation as Editor appears to have been the event that precipitated the end of the Society, but I did give a full year's warning. If there is no one else willing and able to do the job, closure was going to happen one of these times anyhow, as I have not been granted immortality.

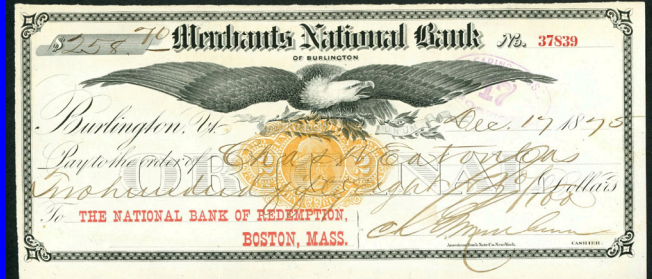
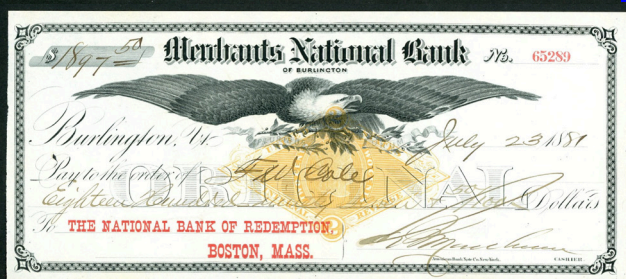
So, after 25 years, this is it. It's been both frustrating and fun. I hope you've gotten some enjoyment from it as well.

#### Security Printers Guide

The Guide can be downloaded from the ASCC website, free.

# A Gathering of Eagles

By  
Don Woodworth





I am a retired colonel in the United States Air Force. Colonels are often referred to as “bird” colonels in reference to the eagle insignia which is a symbol of their rank. I was thus immediately attracted to the first example I ever saw of a draft issued by the Merchants National Bank of Burlington, Vermont because of the prominent black eagle (similar to a colonel’s insignia) prominently spread across the breadth of the document. These drafts also held special attraction for me as the Merchants National Bank of Burlington building still stands at 172 College Street in Burlington and the bank remains very much in business. During the years that my son, Don III, was a practicing attorney in Burlington, it was an easy walk from his home past the bank to his place of business by the shore of Lake Champlain.

With apologies to the Audubon Society, the page used as a lead-in to this article shows a nice sampling of these eagle drafts “flying” in a formation never seen in nature. (-:

### Draft Defined

A bank draft or banker's draft is a check that is guaranteed by the bank that issues it. In most cases, it lists the bank's main office or branch as the issuer, and the person or company that is receiving the money as the payee; the name of the person who requested the draft is often not included. Unlike a personal check, which could bounce if the account holder did not have enough money to cover it, there is virtually no chance that a legitimate bank draft will not be honored and paid in full. This term is more commonly used in the UK than it is in the US, where a cashier's is a similar, more common method of guaranteed payment.

To obtain a bank draft, a customer had to make a request at the bank. The bank would first ensure that the customer had enough money to cover the requested amount and then deduct that sum from the person's account. The draft would be issued, naming the bank itself (usually its main office) as the entity making payment. The draft would typically be signed by at least one manager. It would then be given to the person requesting it, who could then use it for the purpose desired. Because the draft was written on the bank itself, payment was virtually guaranteed, with funds from the drawer's account set aside to be paid out when the draft was used.<sup>1</sup>

### Merchants National Bank of Burlington, Vermont

The bank was established as the Merchants Bank in 1849 and subsequently became Vermont's only independent, state-wide bank. Originally located near the docks on the shore of Lake Champlain, bankers noted a shifting trend in business uphill toward the vicinity of the city park and accordingly moved their facilities up from the docks and rail lines by 1857. Soon, however, more space was required by the bank's expanding business resulting from a rising tide of commerce that followed the Union's victory in the Civil War. The bank took a national charter in 1865 to become The Merchants National Bank of Burlington, Vermont. The bank changed itself from a national to a state-chartered bank on Sep 6, 1974, renaming itself The Merchants Bank.

The building currently occupied by the bank on College Street in Burlington was opened in 1896 and is still the site of the bank's operations.<sup>2</sup>



Fig. 1. College Street, Burlington, VT ca 1910 from undated period postcard. The view is looking downhill and west toward Lake Champlain. The bank is located on the right (north) side of the street toward the center of this view.



Fig. 1a is a view of the same bank looking north taken on 21 Jul 2013. The building is well maintained and still used by the bank – a wonderful example of Yankee frugality and the historical sensitivity that helps keep the principal streets of Burlington so attractive.



The Merchants National Bank of Burlington, Vermont used a series of drafts between the years 1871 and 1883 and again during the Spanish American War bearing a wonderful black image of an eagle with spread wings reached from nearly edge to edge across the top of the documents upon which it was printed.



Fig. 2. Example of Type RN-G1 Merchants National Bank of Burlington Draft No. 77779 of Aug 1, 1881 on the Fourth National Bank, New York City. Note that the number of the draft and the name of the correspondent bank are in blue.

Fig. 2a. (On following page) Example of Type RN-G1 Merchants National Bank of Burlington Draft No. 65289 of July 23, 1881 on The National Bank of Redemption, Boston, Mass. Note that the number of the draft and the name of the correspondent bank are in red.



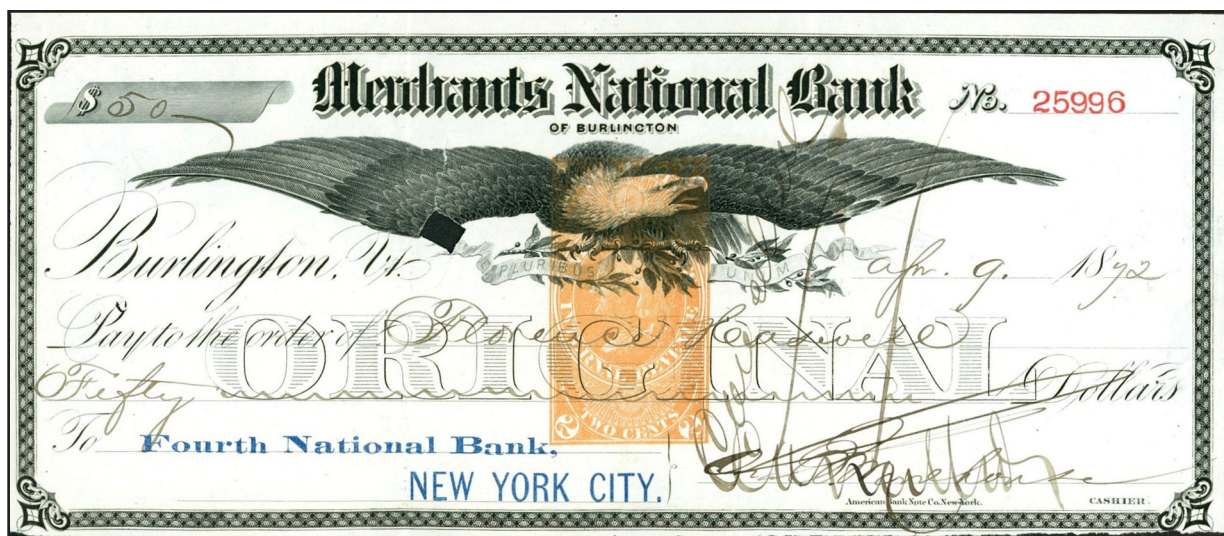
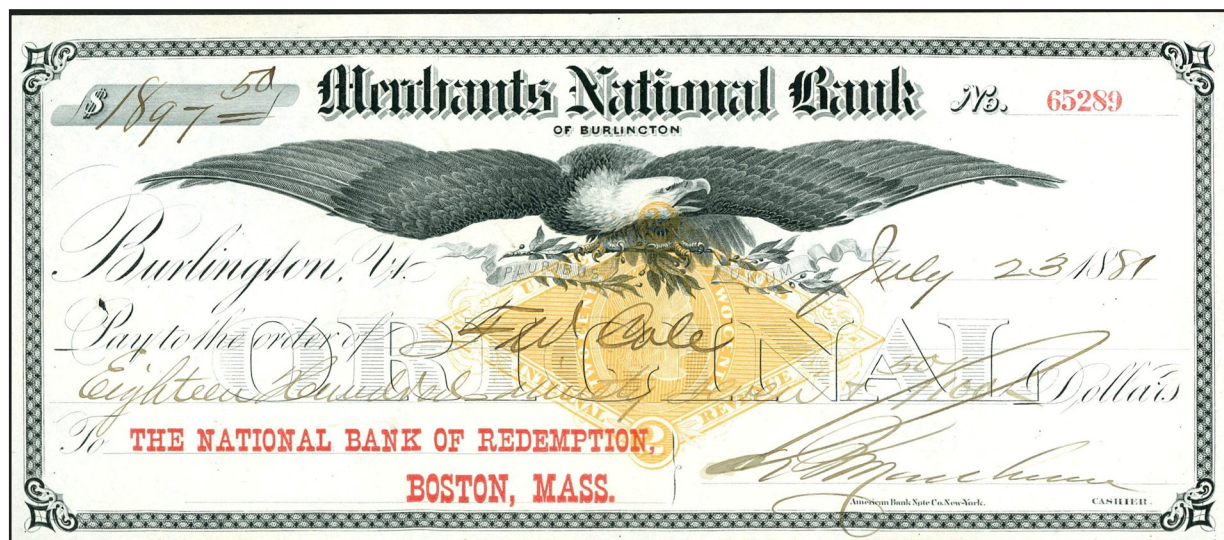


Fig. 3. With tongue firmly planted in cheek, one could make the case for “bald eagle” and “golden eagle” varieties of these drafts. Type C and E imprint designs are so shaped that the color of the revenue stamp imprint usually underlies the eagle’s head, changing it from a bald eagle to a golden eagle! This is perfectly illustrated by Type RN-E4 Merchants National Bank of Burlington Draft No. 25996 of Apr 9, 1872 on The Fourth National Bank, New York City.

Under-printing on all known drafts reads “ORIGINAL,” which begs the question of why examples of “SECONDS” or “THIRDS” have not turned up. While transportation might have been a bit spotty in the 1870s and 1880s when Types C, D, E, F, and G were used, this certainly was not the case during the Spanish American War when Type X7 was used – begging the question of why “ORIGINAL” continued to be printed on each draft when there was every likelihood that a “SECOND” or “THIRD” would have been superfluous.

All these drafts are written on two correspondent banks – The National Bank of Redemption in Boston, MA and the Fourth National Bank in New York City. The choice of banks in these locations makes pretty good sense as Boston has historically been the focus of commerce for New

England, with New York being an equally sensible choice because of its long, shared border with Vermont and its role as the primary commercial entity for the United States.

There is an exception to the foregoing statement. The bank also used a blank form of their eagle draft upon which could be written the name of a financial institution other than the two normally used. This is illustrated by a draft written on the Merchants Bank of Canada, Montreal, P.Q.

This is not overly surprising since Montreal, a major Canadian city, is only about 90 miles north of Burlington and it would have been natural to expect a reasonable proportion of the business done in Burlington to have centered on their northern neighbor.





Fig. 4. RN-G1 Merchants National Bank of Burlington draft No. 2710 of May 24, 1883 on the Merchants Bank, Canada, Montreal, P.Q. (Province Quebec).

### National Bank of Redemption

The National Bank of Redemption in Boston, MA sounds like it might be some sort of religious institution – but it was not! “Redemption” in this case meant that the bank was a clearing house that exchanged specie (coin) for bank notes from country banks to which city-dwellers could not easily travel to redeem same for hard currency. This bank likely began as the Suffolk Bank, which operated from 1818 to 1858 and morphed into the National Bank of Redemption. It was located at 41 Devonshire St. in Boston.

The bank operated by redeeming country banks' notes at par value (their stated or face value), as long as the banks maintained an account with Suffolk Bank. To qualify for such an account, a bank was required to remit a starting deposit of \$2,000.00 or more, and—in the case of banks not located in Boston—to maintain a sufficient balance to redeem any of the banks' notes that Suffolk Bank might receive for redemption. As from 1824, all of the banks in Boston, with the exception of the New England Bank (a competing clearinghouse bank) agreed to make the Suffolk Bank their agent for the redemption of bills of outside banks. The Suffolk Bank enabled member banks to deposit notes from other banks at par value, and to be credited for these deposits within one business day. The bank operated in this manner until the Bank of Mutual Redemption was organized in 1858 and assumed this role for all New England. The Bank of Mutual Redemption became the National Bank of Redemption in 1864.<sup>3</sup>

### Fourth National Bank

The Fourth National Bank of the City of New York was established in 1864. It lost its identity via merger on May 1, 1914 when it became part of The State Mechanics & Metals National Bank of the City of NY. Interestingly, the National Bank Act of 1863 created the nation's first truly national banking system. Under the act, the notes of state banks

were taxed, driving them out of business or forcing them to join the national system. The Act effectively destroyed the previously decentralized and fairly successful state banking system and replaced with a new, centralized federal system under the aegis of Washington, DC and a handful of New York City Wall Street banks.

The national banking system created under the Act established three tiers of national banks: Central Reserve City (New York City); Other Cities with populations over 500,000 people; and Country, which included all other national banks. There was a need for a powerful bank in New York City and the famous (infamous?) Jay Cooke was happy to oblige, quickly establishing (ta dah!) the Fourth National Bank of New York capitalized at \$5,000,000 – a huge sum for the time. Ironically, the mighty House of Cooke crashed soon thereafter, igniting the Panic of 1873.<sup>4</sup>

### Drafts of the Merchants National Bank of Burlington

These drafts are commonly seen in dealer's stocks and on eBay, making it possible to acquire a nice selection at reasonable prices. They are easy to spot because the large black eagle virtually jumps out at the viewer. Examples are known for Types RN-C1, C2, D1, D4, E4, F1, G1, and X7.

Table 1, Known Varieties of Merchants National Bank of Burlington, shows the various known permutations of these drafts.



Table 1. Known Varieties of Merchants National Bank of Burlington, VT “Original” Drafts

Imprint Type	Correspondent Bank	Color of Correspondent Text
C1	Fourth National Bank, NEW YORK CITY	Blue
C1	THE NATIONAL BANK OF REDEMPTION BOSTON, MASS.	Red
C2	Fourth National Bank, NEW YORK CITY	Blue
D1	The Fourth National Bank, NEW YORK CITY	Blue
D1	THE FOURTH NATIONAL BANK, NEW YORK CITY	Blue
D1	THE NATIONAL BANK OF REDEMPTION BOSTON, MASS.	Red
D4	THE NATIONAL BANK OF REDEMPTION BOSTON, MASS.	Red
E4	Fourth National Bank, NEW YORK CITY	Blue
F1	THE FOURTH NATIONAL BANK, NEW YORK CITY	Blue
F1	THE NATIONAL BANK OF REDEMPTION BOSTON, MASS.	Red
G1	THE FOURTH NATIONAL BANK, NEW YORK CITY	Blue
G1	Merchants Bank Canada, Montreal, P.Q.	Black Manuscript
G1	THE NATIONAL BANK OF REDEMPTION BOSTON, MASS.	Red
none	FOURTH NATIONAL BANK, NEW YORK	Blue
X7	FOURTH NATIONAL BANK, NEW YORK	Blue

This table suggests that the Merchants National Bank may have used a color-coded system whereby drafts with blue text were used for the Fourth National Bank in New York City and those in red were used for the National Bank of Redemption in Boston. If this be the case, we should thus expect in future to find examples of Type C2, E4, and X7 drafts on the National Bank of Redemption. Note that the color and font used in the “Correspondent Bank” column replicates that used on the drafts being listed.

So whether you are a “full bull bird” colonel, a “bottle cap telephone” lieutenant colonel, an aficionado of the Colonel’s fried chicken, a Kentucky colonel, or simply an admirer of things Vermont, I hope you have enjoyed reading my article about these interesting drafts in what is (sadly) the very last issue of *The Check Collector*.

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3. National Bank of Redemption: <https://tinyurl.com/ydhbugem> and <https://tinyurl.com/ydhbugem> and <https://tinyurl.com/y994hhgj>
4. Fourth National Bank: <http://www.scripophily.com/nybankhistoryf.htm> and <https://scripophily.net/menabaoofbuve1.html> and <https://tinyurl.com/y74abghq>



## Eagle Postscript



This Merchants National Bank draft was used on the first day of the Spanish American War tax, July 1, 1898.

While uses of the appropriate adhesive tax stamps on the first day are known from locations across the country, apparently no stamps were available in Burlington, Vermont. The stamp on this check was added on July 7. By that time it had been handled by the New York Clearing House, so the stamp was likely added by the Fourth National Bank.

At the beginning of the tax period banks were encouraged to add stamps to unstamped checks and drafts rather than returning them to the writer, charging the two cents or not to the writer's account, as the bank chose. After about a year banks were instructed to return documents instead.

Partially under the stamp the following can be read: IMPOSSIBLE TO PROCURE PROPER REVENUE STAMPS FOR THIS INSTRUMENT.

## Merchants National Bank Postscript



The Merchants National Bank used a different style of drafts until some time in 1871, with style overlap into 1872.

Some of the earlier ones drawn on specific secondary banks were payable in gold, and went so far as to have this specified on the document.

This particular example has a printed secondary bank in Montreal, and happens to be payable to a Canadian bank as well. It is quite uncommon to have the secondary bank outside the United States.



## History Unveiled

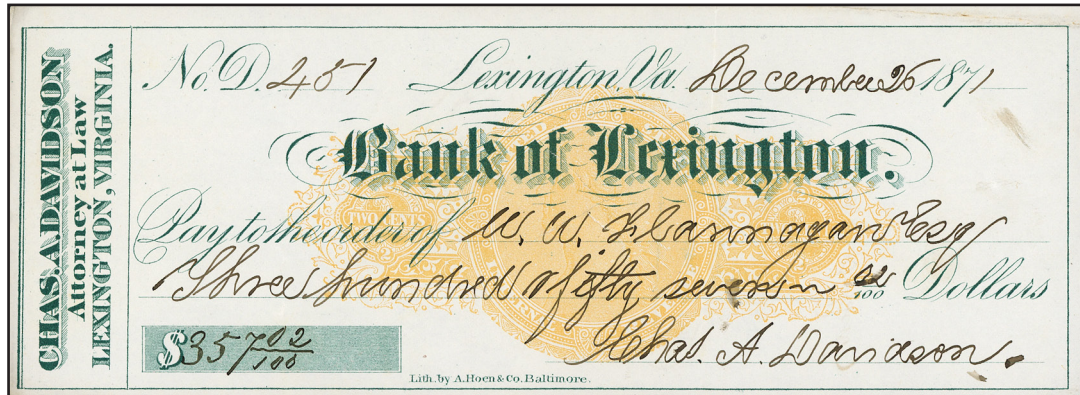
By Victor, Lord Denovan

As a collector of RSP's and whilst collecting the different imprinted stamp types of the US States in general, I decided to add three 'specialist' States, namely West Virginia, Virginia and Georgia.

I purchased quite a number from a well-known dealer of RSP's and happily began to write-up my display sheets. It

is an added pleasure for me to also research or seek out anything I may be able to find online about the Bank, the person or Company who made the payment or indeed about the person/company who was being paid.

Imagine my pleasure in researching the following Virginia check signed by Charles A. Davidson, Attorney at Law.



MAJOR CHARLES A. DAVIDSON, one of five sons of James D. and Hannah Greenlee Davidson, was born in Lexington, Virginia, in 1839. On both sides of the family he was descended from Scots-Irish settlers of the Valley of Virginia. After growing up in Lexington, he entered the Virginia Military Institute from which he graduated in 1860. He entered the University of Virginia Law School in the autumn of 1860 and in the following spring he volunteered for service with the Army of Northern Virginia. He was commissioned a lieutenant by Governor John Letcher and assigned to the First Battalion, a command famous for hard fighting. As the war proceeded his rank increased and in 1865 he was in command of the Irish Battalion of the Army of Northern Virginia. After the war he became an Attorney at Law, was a member of the Lexington Town Council, a bank director, and a real estate agent. He was an organizing member of the Lee Memorial Association (Secretary 1870-79) and a Mason. He died 28 February 1879 at the sanitarium in Clifton Springs, New York, known for its sulphur springs therapy - just 39 years of age. Buried in Stonewall Jackson Cemetery, Lexington, VA.

Having printed the display sheet I then found another check signed by him in my pile as below:



And if this was not enough, to my astonishment I found the check below signed by James Dorman Davidson, who upon research was found to be the father of Charles Andrew Davidson above.



James Dorman Davidson  
(1808-1882)  
sits in profile in a chair  
in studio for a portrait

James Dorman Davidson (1808-1882) was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia. He graduated from Washington College in 1828. After passing the bar in 1831, Davidson lived and practiced law in Lexington for half a century. In 1835, he handled the settlement of the estate of Colonel James McDowell, father of Davidson's friend and future Virginia governor James McDowell, Jr. The case set Davidson's course as a specialist in estate settlement. Known as the "Country Lawyer," Davidson was widely respected by the Virginia legal community.

Politically active, he was first a Whig, then a Democrat, and initially a staunch Unionist. At the request of Governor John Letcher, Davidson visited with President Abraham Lincoln, withdrawing his opposition to secession after seeing that the President would not compromise.

During the war, Davidson organized the Rockbridge County Home Guard, acted as Commissary Agent for the Virginia troops, and represented Governor Letcher in his dealings with military forces. Three of Davidson's sons with wife Hannah McDowell Greenlee Davidson, Greenlee, Frederick, and Albert, died fighting for the Confederacy. His brother Alexander H. Davidson lived in Indiana and was a General in the U. S. Army. After the war, Davidson acted as a diplomatic agent between occupying Federal forces and the citizens of his county. He also tried to revive the local economy by urging investment in West Virginia coal and lumber.

In addition to his legal career, he served as trustee of Washington and Lee University from 1858 to 1882. A friend of Robert E. Lee and "Stonewall" Jackson, Davidson also led the establishment of memorials for the men in Lexington. Additionally, he contributed poems and short stories to the literary periodical *The Mountain Laurel*.

As a UK collector who has an interest in history, these checks are 'History unveiled' and are truly fascinating. I would add that this type of online research and information is not available if one was collecting Scottish, English or Welsh checks and drafts. Therefore being a member of the American Society of Check Collectors AND also a member of the American Revenue Association provides me with my interest in checks and philately, both wonderfully interesting and enjoyable, all at the same time.





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## Elusive Home Town Checks from Orange, CA

by David Brase

For the past 45 years, one of my major collecting interests has been national currency from places where I have lived. My first home town note is a series of 1902 plain-back blue-seal \$10 note issued by the First National Bank of Orange, California. I bought it for \$125 in 1973 from Lyn Knight, who graded it choice almost uncirculated. It remains the finest known of approximately 20 large-sized notes I have

seen at shows, in auctions, and/or in a census. In contrast, I have been unable to find a check issued on this bank from the note-issuing era. The best that I could do was to find one unused check with a 193- dateline in a shoebox full of check stubs that my father had stored in the loft of his garage (Fig. 1).

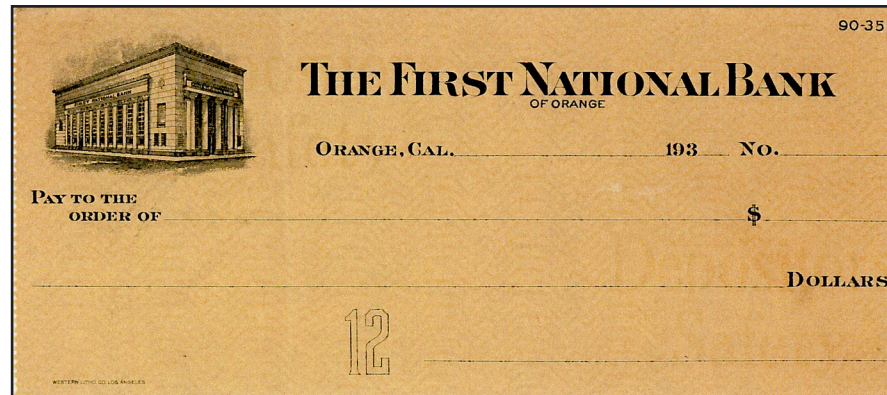


Fig. 1: The First National Bank of Orange, CA, had charter number 8181. As it started branches outside of the city limits, its name was changed to The First National Bank of Orange County. In 1978, its shareholders sold out to Wells Fargo Bank National Association.

Orange had another national bank that was chartered in 1910, four years after the First National Bank. I know of 23 series of 1902 notes from the National Bank of Orange. Only one of them, however, has a cashier's signature other than that of J. R. Porter, who was the cashier for the earlier 22 notes and finally made it to president on the 23rd note not long before the bank was merged into the First National Bank. It first appeared at an auction in 2006, where my classmate (grades 1-12) who still lives in Orange, Tom Porter, was the successful bidder. Tom collected national currency only from Orange and Olive, so I had to wait until he started to auction his collection in 2017 before I was the successful bidder on the only note bearing the signature of

F. M. Gulick as cashier to complete my collection of four cashier-president signature combinations.

Meanwhile, my search for a check from the National Bank of Orange continued for 20 years after finding my 193-check from the First National Bank. I finally found one at the table of the Superior Stamp Company (New York City) in the 2008 ANA show at the Baltimore Convention Center (Fig. 2). I thought that its price of \$30 was pretty stiff until Tom Porter said that he would gladly pay that much, because he had not seen any checks from that bank and also because the check was signed by a well-known town druggist, Kellar Watson.

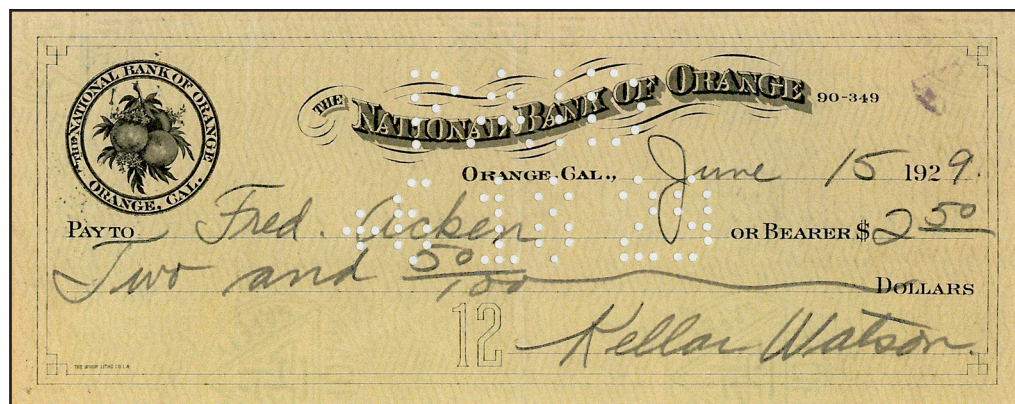


Fig. 2: The National Bank of Orange, CA, had charter number 9878. It closed on June 30, 1927, nearly two years before Kellar Watson used this check. The First National Bank of Orange assumed its outstanding circulation of national currency.



However, there were two Kellar Watsons, Kellar Watson, Sr., who started his drug store at age 29 in 1899, and Kellar Watson, Jr., who took over management of the drug store after his father died in 1943. At the time this check was issued to the owner of the town's Texaco station in 1929,

Kellar Watson, Jr. would have been 22 years old. That same year, he won the Pacific Coast Surfing Championship at Corona del Mar, and started working at his father's drug store shortly thereafter. Kellar Watson, Jr. sold the drug store (Fig. 3) in 1966 and died at his home in Orange at the age of 92.



Fig. 3: Watson's Rexall Drug Store as it appeared in the 1960s when Kellar Watson, Jr. sold it. The store remains today as an historic landmark in downtown Orange, CA, although now most of the space is occupied by a restaurant that includes the original soda fountain. The author's 50th high school reunion was held here in 2013

I must acknowledge Tom Porter as the source of the following checks from my home town. Perhaps he found them at local antique shops or flea markets, but all he wrote me with the last three checks in May of 2011 was, "I ran into an accumulation..."

The Bank of Orange (Fig. 4) was organized in 1886, but

the Commercial Bank of Santa Ana owned 85% of the stock. That stock was sold to the citizens of Orange on May 10, 1905, and William H. Burnham became the bank's president. He remained as the president when the bank became nationalized in 1910 as the National Bank of Orange and continued in that position until 1916, when D. C. Pixley became president and remained until 1922.

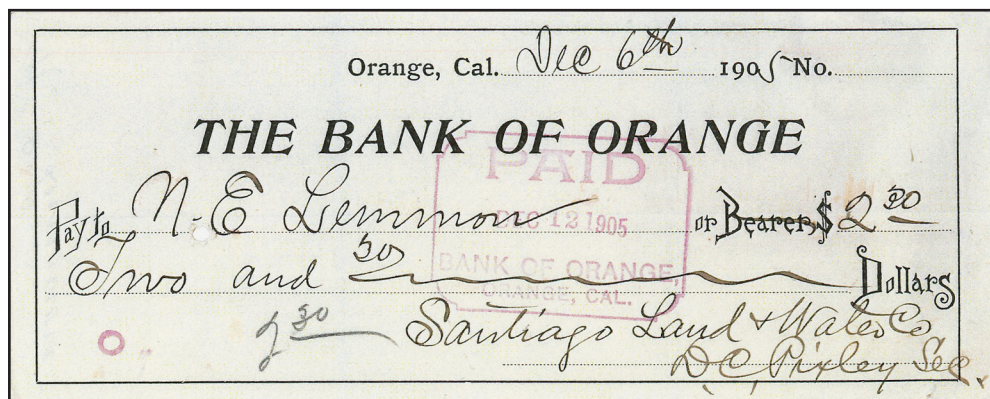


Fig. 4: When The Bank of Orange began in 1886, it was in Los Angeles County, because Orange County did not become a separate county until 1889. At the time D. C. (De Witt Clinton) Pixley signed this check, he was also the vice president of this bank.

The First Commercial Bank of Orange opened for business on March 10, 1922. I do not know much about this bank, but considering that my check from this bank (Fig. 5) and the checks for the two subsequent bank titles were signed by the same person, it likely was sold to the Bank of Italy

National Trust and Savings Association (Fig. 6), which was chartered as a national bank on March 1, 1927, with headquarters in San Francisco. On November 1, 1930, this bank underwent a title change to the Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association (Fig. 7).

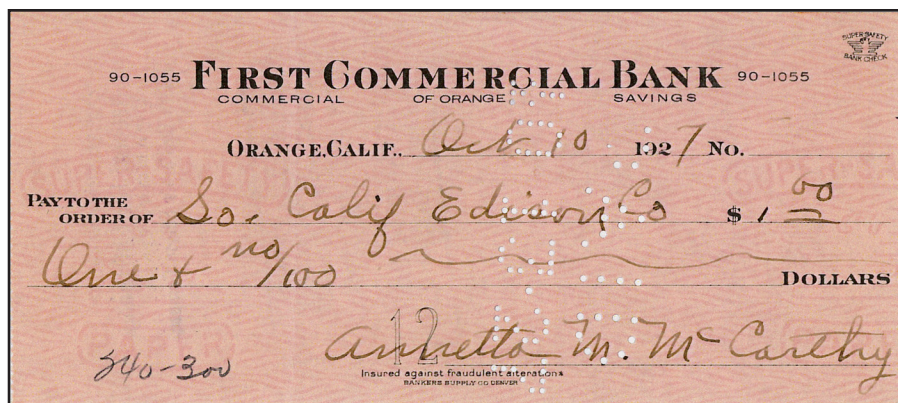


Fig. 5: When the First Commercial Bank of Orange started in 1922, it had an authorized capital of \$100,000 and paid up capital of \$75,000. Its president was R. R. Rees and the cashier was A. W. Swayze.



Fig. 6: The Bank of Italy National Trust and Savings Association had charter number 13044. Over 200 series of 1902 national currency notes ranging in denomination from \$5 to \$100 are known to still exist (including a \$20 note in the author's collection).

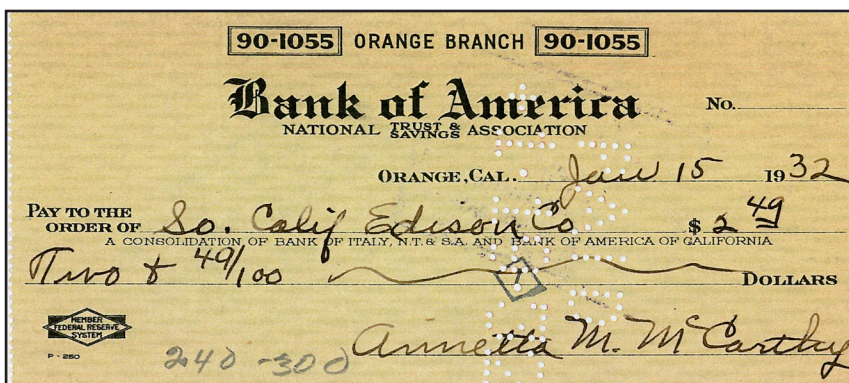


Fig. 7: The Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association, Orange Branch, is where the author had his first savings account at the age of six (\$5.00 at 3% interest).

By the end of 1978, I had acquired national currency from both of the national banks in my home town and now have all seven possible cashier-president signature combinations on the currency they issued. However, I still have not completed my collection of home town checks from the

currency-issuing period. Missing are checks from the Security Savings Bank of Orange and the Orange Savings Bank, both of which opened for business in 1906. One could say that these have remained the most elusive.



## Connecticut Revenue Stamped Paper (RSP) Bank Checks and Related Documents - Part 6 - by Don Woodworth

Geographic Location	Issuing Agency	Individual Account	Type Color	Paper Color	Printer	Remarks	C / NC
<b>RN C1</b>	<b>CHECKS</b>						
New London	B of North AmericaOffice	New London Northern RR Co	Green	Lt Green	M&K		NC
New London	N B of Commerce		Black	White	SHW		NC
New London	N B of Commerce		Blue	White	SHW	Mint	NC
New London	N B of Commerce (italic text)	New London Northern RR Co	Brown	White	CMC		C
New London	N Union B		Blue	Green tint	FFN	Connecticut left	C
New London	N Union B of New London		Purple	Purple Moiré	EFN		C

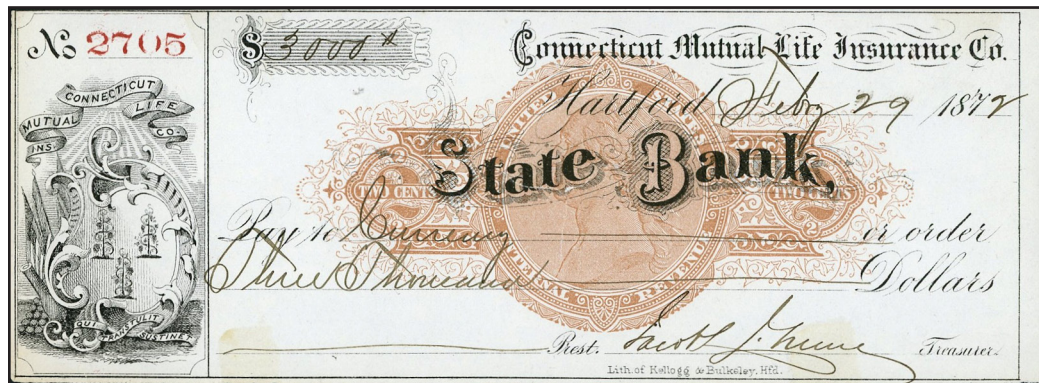


New London	N Whaling B of New London		Green	White	HSp	Connecticut left	C
Norwich	Merchants' N B	Elijah A. Bill	Black	White	SHW		C
Norwich	Norwich N B (manuscript over Thames)	C. F. Simonds	Red	White	-		NC
Norwich	Second N B	Chelsea Savings Bank	Black	White	SHW		C*
Norwich	Thames N B		Green	White	-	Connecticut left	C
Norwich	Thames N B		Black	White	-		NC
Norwich	Uncas N B (white "negative" lettering against gray background)	Connecticut	White	Gray tint	DLP	Numerical entries (violet m/s in left tablet)	C
Stamford	First N B (ms)	Guinness Sewing Machine			SBR		C*
Stamford	-	Pennsylvania Coal Co. )	Black	White	COJ	City name in black	C
Stonington	First N B, New York	Providence & Boston RR Co.	Black	White	Art	Imprints exist in orange & salmon	C
Willimantic	Willimantic Savings Institute	Connecticut at left	Blue	White	-		NC
Willimantic	Willimantic Savings Institute	Connecticut at left	Blue	White	M&K		NC
Willimantic	Willimantic Trust Co. (Gothic italic font)	Connecticut at left	Blue	Lt gray tint	-		C

### RN C1 DRAFTS

Bridgeport	Naugatuck RR Co.		Green		EAL		C*
Hartford	Kellogg & Bulkley		Green	White		Justice left	C
Westport	First N B of Westport		Black	White	CMC		C*

Geographic Location	Issuing Agency	Individual Account	Type Color	Paper Color	Printer	Remarks	C / NC
RN C1 RECEIPTS							
New Haven		Sam'l Halliwell	Black	White	-		NC
New Haven		O. B. North & Co.	Black	White	-		NC
RN C1 SPECIMEN							
West Meriden	N Iron B		Green	White	C&M		NC
RN C2 CHECKS							
Cornwall Bridge	N Iron B Cornwall	Bridge Iron Co.	Violet				C*
East Haddam	N B of New England	Williams Duck Co.			SHW		C*
Hartford	American Exchange N B of New York	Austin, Dunham & Son	Red	White	BDC		C
Hartford	Mercantile N B	Northam & Robinson			CMC		C*
Hartford	State B	Connecticut Mutual . Life Ins. Co	Black	White	K&B	Coat of arms	NC



New Haven	New Haven County N B		Red		PCr		C*
New London	N Union B of New London		Violet	Violet	FFN		C
RN C5 DRAFT							
Hartford	Aetna N B		CLB				C
RN C9 DRAFTS							
New Haven	C. Cowles & Co.		Black	White	-	Premises	NC
New Haven	? N B	New Haven Folding Chair Co.	Black	White	?	Cut square	NC

## RN C13 DRAFT

New Britain	New Britain N B	The Stanley Works	Black	White	B&D	Vignette of hinge at left	NC
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## RN C16 RECEIPT

Mansfield Center		O.S. Chaffee & Son	Black	White	-		C
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This completes the Connecticut inventory through the RN C's. If we continue this inventory it will be, of necessity, only on the website.



## Announcement

Bob Hohertz asked me to assume the duties of President of the ASCC in 2009 to relieve him of some of the duties he had as both President and Editor. I agreed to do so, but certainly did not anticipate that I would be the last President of the ASCC.

The ASCC has published 128 issues of *The Check Collector*, and Bob has been the Editor of exactly 100 over the last 25 years. He also has written a disproportionate amount of the content. I believe the ASCC has provided a great deal of useful information and enjoyment for our members and has greatly enhanced the hobby of check collecting. As proof, see the cumulative index on pages 12 through 20 prepared by Bob as a parting gift.

Without question, Bob is due the lion's share of the credit for the success of the ASCC. On behalf of Bob and the Board of Directors, we thank all of our loyal members and all of you who have contributed articles and other information for publication.

I stated in the prior issue that the money remaining in the ASCC's treasury, after payment of all obligations and refund of dues for 2019 and beyond, would be transferred to the American Revenue Association. This is still correct.

However, the accompanying statement that ASCC members would receive in exchange a membership in the ARA for one year is not correct. As a 501(c)(3) corporation the ASCC cannot use its funds to benefit any member, and purchase of a membership would be such a prohibited benefit.

At last report the ARA intended to send four future issues of its journal, *The American Revenuer*, to members of the ASCC as an inducement to join the ARA. This is a decision made by the ARA directors and is not a condition of the transfer of the ASCC's assets or an obligation of the ARA.

In my first announcements as President in 2009, I noted that Bob had been Editor for 15 and one-half years and could not continue forever. I asked for someone to volunteer to serve as Bob's assistant with the expectation of succeeding him as Editor. This appeal escalated over time into numerous appeals for someone to volunteer to serve as Editor. Since no one has done so, the day of reckoning is at hand. The TCC ends its run as a high quality publication, but it will serve as a useful reference for many years. I am saddened to see it end. I do encourage you to continue to share your knowledge in other forums.

*Hermann Sweter*

## A Favorite Check

### Les Winners



I'm attracted to checks transferring large amounts of money, such as this one moving \$10,000 from the Concord Banking Company of Concord, GA to the National Bank of Commerce, NY.

How much would that \$10,000 be worth today? It would have a purchasing power of \$264,000, and its relative share of the output of the economy would be \$5,160,000!

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Member Exchange

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Collector seeks Oklahoma Territory & Indian Territory checks. Top prices paid. **Bob Fritz**, P.O. Box 1548, Sun City, AZ 85372-1548.

New member is interested in pre-1950 Wisconsin checks. Will purchase or trade for any needed. **Tom Casper**, S95W13453 St. Andrews Dr., Muskego, WI 53150. E-mail tcasper57@hotmail.com.

Retiring and have 108 19th and 20th Century checks to sell including revenues; hopefully as a group. Send for details. **Hal Cherry**, 1812 Rainbow Drive, Richardson, TX 75081. halcherry@msn.com

Wanted: Checks from dealers in Indian relics or fossils - or signed by archaeologists or paleontologists. Or other related paper. Write: **Stan Rough**, 4217 8th Avenue, Temple, PA 19570-1805.

Wanted: "Manuscript" aka completely handwritten checks. All states and dates (generally pre-1900. **Sheldon Rabin**, 1820 Sheep Ranch Loop, Chula Vista, CA, 91913-1659, sheldonrabin@yahoo.com.

Dealer wants checks signed by celebrities. No quantity too large. **Myron Ross**, Heroes & Legends, 18034 Ventura Blvd., Encino, CA 91316

Collector seeks checks autographed by famous people. Top prices paid. **Michael Reynard**, 1301 20th Street #260, Santa Monica, CA 90404. reynard@ucla.edu

Collector seeks New York City Tenth National Bank checks and other documents.. **Al Terre**, PO Box 25181 Arlington, VA 22202. sur4sale@yahoo.com

---

Exchange postings will be taken from ASCC members who are collectors only. Postings of 20 words or less are free; please remit \$3 each issue for postings of 21 to fifty words. Name and address do **not** count toward the 20 words.

Neither the Editor nor the ASCC can be responsible for compliance with any promises made in postings, or in response to them. Be very clear as to the value you place on your material when discussing a trade. Fairness and common courtesy are to be expected, but common sense must rule.

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Another Buffalo

---



Way back in 2010 we ran an article concerning bison vignettes. At that time no one offered this example. Never too late for a check this handsome.



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A non-profit organization organized under Section 501-(c)-(3)

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